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LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement issued on 24 February 1993 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation concerning Russia's proposals on further measures to settle the crisis in the former Yugoslavia.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Y. M. VORONTSOV

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Annex

Statement issued on 24 February 1993 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation regarding Russia's proposals on further measures to settle the crisis in the former Yugoslavia

The leadership of the Russian Federation continues to pay very close attention to the question of a settlement in the former Yugoslavia. The special representative of the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. V. Churkin, who has been joined by the special representative of the President of the United States of America, Mr. R. Bartholomew, is working actively in New York with the Co-Chairmen to promote the Vance-Owen plan.

Yesterday we called upon all Bosnian parties to come to New York immediately, with the appropriate plenipotentiary powers, to engage in constructive work and adopt the whole package of agreements.

Now it is essential not to allow any interruptions in the negotiations process and the joint efforts of the international community to ensure the speedy approval and implementation of the Vance-Owen plan.

With this objective in mind, the President of the Russian Federation has approved the following Russian proposals on further measures to settle the crisis in the former Yugoslavia.

1. Russia calls upon all Bosnian parties to observe a truce for the duration of the negotiations, and to halt the shelling of cities, in particular Sarajevo.

2. All hostilities in Croatia must be halted. If the strengthening of the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force fails to produce the desired effect, Russia will continue to call for sanctions in the Security Council.

3. Russia is deeply committed to the speedy adoption by all Bosnian parties of the Vance-Owen plan on Bosnia and Herzegovina, and its endorsement by a Security Council resolution.

4. After the Serbian side signs the Vance-Owen package of agreements conditions will be created for the gradual lifting of sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the normal participation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations bodies and other international organizations.

5. Russia advocates the establishment of multinational United Nations forces to assist in the implementation of the Vance-Owen plan after it is approved, and is considering the possibility of the participation of a Russian contingent in such forces. In the implementation of a future peacemaking

operation under the control of the Security Council, we are prepared to enlist the participation of a mechanism of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, including the material and technical resources of the relevant regional structures, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations.

6. The Security Council and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe should consider more rigorous measures to monitor the observance of the embargo on deliveries of arms to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

7. The Security Council's decision that the Secretary-General of the United Nations should prepare proposals on the establishment of an international tribunal should serve the purpose of the objective investigation of war crimes committed during the conflict.

We are prepared to include Russian specialists in the investigation of the mass graves in the region of Vukovar (Croatia) and in the Geneva Commission of Experts to establish the facts of war crimes in the former Yugoslavia.

8. Russia advocates the development of guarantees for the exercise of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with emphasis on the rights of minorities.